

IN THE OIL FIELDS.

Several Good Wells Anticipated in the Sistersville Field.

A REPORTED FINE WELL IN RITCHIE

County now said to be no good—The Philadelphia Company's Venture on Middle Island Creek Attracts Interest—What is Being Done in the Colerain Field—Operations Active in Marshall County.

The depression of notable gushers experienced in the Sistersville oil field during the past few days is expected to reach an end to-day, when it is thought that several promising wells now due will be drilled into the sand.

Several days ago the Philadelphia Gas Company drilled in a well on the Barker farm, on Middle Island creek, back of Haven's Rock. Some oil was found and the sand was of a very good quality. There was not sufficient oil, however, to make it a paying producer, and it was decided to abandon it. Now the rig has been moved to a location 1,500 feet north and east of the first well, and drilling will be started for a second well as soon as the rig can be arranged. It is the general belief that a pool of oil exists in the vicinity, and strenuous efforts will be made to locate it. The well is a rank wildcat.

The well on the Brown lease of the Buchanan farm near Antioch, which has had a bad fishing job at the top of the sand will likely be drilled to-day, as the tools were recovered yesterday afternoon. This well is considered as the palladium of developments in that portion of the Sistersville field and if it proves itself to be of worth its coming in will be followed with considerable activity in operations.

Stricker No. 1, a wild cat on Whisky run, had the 10-inch casing put in yesterday afternoon. Drilling has been slow in this well on account of the hardness of the soil.

After all, the boom well on Plum run, in Ritchie county, is reported by responsible authorities to be worthless. The well has been reported at various times to have been a gusher of considerable magnitude, but at last its fate seems to be sealed. It is now over sixty feet in the Big Injun sand without the slightest showing of oil. The only oil that has showed itself was when the drill was in the salt sand. The failure of the well to be a producer will have a tendency to condemn that portion of the Cairo field. It is located several miles north of Smithville, on a tributary to the Hughes river.

The staying qualities of the Waverly shallow pool is attested in the eight wells of the Florence Oil Company steadily producing 600 barrels a day.

Dye-Brooks No. 6, J. T. Jones & Co., on Middle Island, is increasing its production which cannot be estimated until it has settled itself. This well was drilled in Wednesday afternoon.

The pipe line runs yesterday were: Eureka, 13,181; Mellon, 4,111.

The M. Calabangh well on Dog Skin, mentioned previously in these reports, is due to-morrow.

Crawford & Treat yesterday located and commenced a rig for what is practically a test well. It is on the Stewart farm, in Monroe county, Ohio.

The fishing job on Moore & Co.'s well on the Zep farm is completed. It will be drilled in probably in a day or two. Grape Island has furnished a dry hole to a party of Pittsburgh operators. Jones & Co.'s well on the Minerva McKee farm on Middle Island is due to-day.

MARSHALL COUNTY NOTES.

Active Operations in Progress in that Region now.

The South Penn Company's well on the H. B. Yoho farm, in Franklin district, on Fish creek, is a duster.

Negotiations have been closed to begin a new well near to the "Rogerson" well, two miles north of Moundsville very soon.

The Moundsville speculators in the Barcus oil lease, at Sistersville, are jubilant, having received the intelligence that a well has come in good for seventy-five barrels a day.

Wheeling parties have closed deals for a block of territory on Wolf Run and will put down two wells within the next sixty days. The same parties will also put down a hole at Viola.

Things are looking rather lively in the north end of Marshall county in the oil line. Jolly Bros. have drilled a water well to get supply enough to continue the drilling in their holes.

It is reported that a Butler, Pa., party who recently purchased a lease on 1,000 acres about one mile northeast of Moundsville, will soon begin operations for one well. A rumor is also about to the effect that a well will soon be begun about one mile directly east of Moundsville.

"D. S. W." ON NOTES.

Murphy, Jennings & Co. are in luck again on the Hardman farm, in the Big Flint district, Woodbridge county. They have drilled in their No. 10 and it started off at the rate of 300 barrels a day from the top of the sand. No. 8 on the same property, and equally as well located, is due to-morrow, and No. 4 on the Allen farm is scheduled to cut the sand at the same time.

In Monroe county, three-quarters of a mile northwest of the Duist farm, and 1,000 feet northwest of the Henderson-Simms farm well, Galey Bros. & Myler will drill in an important test well Saturday on the Celestine farm. If the well comes in a good producer it will show a northwest extension to the Duist pool. On the other hand, if the well comes in small or dry it will help confirm the opinion that the western edge of the Duist pool has been reached.

Graham & Co. will put in a packer and shut off the water developed in the Abernethy well near Proctor, Wetzel county, and give it a small shot. Unless the well can be improved with a shot it will be abandoned and one of the owners is authority for the statement that they will surrender their lease.

The South Penn Oil Company's well near Board Tree, Greene county, has been a fruitful source for the prolocator to get in his work. The well has been reported producing all the way from 200 to 800 barrels a day and improving. The well has been drilled deeper and deeper and shows no improvement over what was first stated in these reports, fifteen barrels a day.

BELMONT COUNTY NOTES.

The Colerain development in Belmont county, Ohio, is not panning out in a way that is satisfactory to those who have played the territory for a winner.

The Ohio Oil Company's well on the Loyd farm, two miles to the north of the Starbuck well, a duster, and now the Barnard well on the Sutton farm, four miles in the southwest of the Starbuck is a failure.

Two miles south and a little west of the dry hole on the Sutton farm, Barnard is drilling a test on another Sutton farm, in Richland township.

Some eight or nine years ago T. J.

Vandergrift & Company drilled some wells in that locality that came in fair producers, but owing to the low price of oil at that time the territory was abandoned.

The well now drilling in the vicinity of the Starbuck will be a fair test of the Colerain section.

The National Gas Company of West Virginia & Barnard are down 600 feet on the Sharkey-Randall farm, located 2,000 feet southwest of the Starbuck. On the same line the Ohio Oil Company is drilling on the Mrs. Clark farm. Two miles south of the Starbuck the Woodland Oil Company is drilling on the Greenleaf farm.

A half mile north of the Starbuck, the Ohio Oil Company is drilling at 1,700 feet on the Lupton farm.

The foregoing comprises all the work now under way in the Colerain development, and the Lupton will be the first well due in that field.

The Sutton Well.

The well on the John Sutton farm, about five miles west of Bellaire, is down 1,650 feet and is in the Big Injun sand with a good showing of oil. The projectors feel satisfied they could pump thirty barrels a day, but are disposed to go down to the Berea sand. The find is not a surprise, nor does it create much excitement, as no wells were ever put down in that section without finding some oil, but never enough to do any good until now. Another well will be put down on the Sutton farm, and at least two others are located in that vicinity, all nearer this city than the one now being drilled.

Independent Oil Company.

Yesterday the certificate of incorporation of the Independent Oil and Gas Company, mainly composed of Martin's Ferry people, was filed with Clerk Hook, together with a power of attorney from that company to William Atkinson.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

Matters of Minor Moment in and About the City.

The Grand this evening—"Two Old Cronies."

The local Republican meetings in Belmont county are being largely attended.

The council committee on health has been called to meet this evening to consider the matter of natural gas at the crematory.

Gov. McKinley will speak at Stouffville this afternoon and will have a great meeting. He is making better speeches than ever.

A slight collision occurred between two passenger trains on the Wheeling & Lake Erie "Y" at Warrenton yesterday. No one was hurt.

The city pay roll should have been paid yesterday, but was unavoidably delayed for a day, and the city employees will get their checks to-day.

Yesterday's police court was devoted to the cases of three vagrants, run in by Officer Babbs, from the Sixth ward. They were let go to leave town, and left.

Mills Nos. 4 and 5 at the Etna-Standard are off on account of the shortage of stock, and mills 6, 7, 8 and 9 were off last night on account of the boilers.

To-day seats can be reserved for the first lecture of the Young Men's Christian Association course. Dr. Hadley, who will give the first lecture, is thrillingly eloquent.

Max Turner, was arraigned before Squire Gillespy yesterday on a plain drunk charge. He was fined \$1 and costs, and in default of the cash was sent to jail for ten days.

It seems that there are no Democratic job printers in Belmont county, consequently the bills for the Campbell meeting in this county, were printed in Wheeling. We observed this fact before, and the Democratic committee seems to have recognized the fact, too. Then, too, it seems that the man who furnished the copy did not know to what the expression "The Campbell are coming" referred, since he spelled it "camels."—St. Clairsville Chronicle.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Strangers in the City and Wheeling Folks Abroad.

Col. Sam Brubaker returned yesterday evening from a short business trip to Pittsburgh.

Miss Dorothy Henry, of Brooke county, is visiting the Misses Patterson, at Monument Place, Elm Grove.

Mr. George Grafton, traveling representative of the Marietta Chair Company, one of the most popular men on the road, is here on a periodical visit.

"Madeline's" Clever Story.

The story of "Madeline, or the Magic Kiss," the beautiful opera comique by Stanislaus Stange and Julian Edwards, in which Camille D'Arville and her company will be seen at the Opera House next Monday night, is said to be one of the cleverest ever written. It all hinges on the legend of Baron De Grimm, which is described in the following song, one of the most beautiful numbers of the opera:

"In a legend of old,
The story is told
Concerning the Baron Grimm:
Of the five-score years
And since remain
The years may tell between for him.
The had one rich son,
The fifteenth of June,
A maiden quailed for his wife,
He'll begin on that day,
The legend doth say,
The springtime and beauty of life,
With each kiss that he sips
From his pure young lips
He'll grow two and twenty years younger,
As I'd rather put this
With this legend I'll try
To live one hundred years longer."

IRON AND STEEL.

Halt Called on Lowering Tendency in a Number of Lines.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 24.—The American Manufacturer will say to-morrow: "Something of a halt seems to have been called on the lowering tendency in a number of leading lines in the iron and steel market. The stampede of prices has been checked somewhat and figures are growing steadier. At the same time there does not seem to be any marked change toward higher figures during the past week, although some lines are slightly higher. The general situation is better for the producers than it was a week ago, and, while no big jump is expected, it is thought that prices will continue to show an upward tendency."

The only changes in the pig iron market this week show stronger prices although the advance is rather small. Grey forge is quoted at \$12 25-31 00 cash; No. 1 foundry \$15 00-15 25; Bessemer \$16 25-16 50; charcoal cold blast \$21.

"It can hardly be said that the finished iron and steel market is much better this week, but the outlook is brighter. The railroads are evincing more of a disposition to enter the market for large supplies. The Pennsylvania railroad company a few days since ordered 3,000 new cars, and other companies are adding to their equipment. If this continues the finished iron market will soon be in a better shape. Iron from best stock for 21 00-21 45. Steel rails are active at \$20. Billets are weak at \$21 00-21 50. Some reports have been made of sales as low as \$20."

IT IS ALMOST THERE.

The Nine Inch Record Stage in the Ohio may be Reached.

RIVER PILOTS ARE OBSERVING

The Changes in the Channel from Pittsburgh to Parkersburg—A Party of Five was Here Yesterday—How the Harbor Appears from Wheeling to the Belmont Coal Works—A Thirty Foot Channel Below the Creek.

Last evening the marks at the public landing showed that the old Ohio is almost down to a record breaking stage. The water has been below the government marks for some time, but by the improvised gauge it was seen that there was not more than 0.25 inches of water in the river, so that probably this morning nine inches, the record, will have been reached. And still there is no water in sight from above, and the belief is strengthened that there will be no navigation on the upper Ohio until November brings its customary rain and snow.

During the extreme low water the river tow-boat pilots are taking advantage of the situation to make thorough examination of the river from Pittsburgh to Marietta and Parkersburg, between which points most of the tow-boat wrecks occur during the big cold runs of the spring and fall. Last evening five pilots of Pittsburgh boats came down from above in a skiff having examined the river between Wheeling and Pittsburgh. This was found to be an easy matter as the channel is easily defined on account of every sand bar in the river now being above the surface. Others went on down the river, not stopping here.

Yesterday afternoon an INTELLIGENCER man, accompanied by "Bill" Truax, of the wharftown, took a look at the river from the wharf down to the Belmont coal works below Bellaire. Just below the creek the channel is not more than thirty or forty feet wide. It is a fact, perhaps hard to realize, that it is a difficult matter to keep even a flat-bottomed skiff, drawing not over three or four inches, off the bottom. The skiff went around several times during the trip, and altogether a very difficult route was necessary in order to keep out of ripples or off of sand bars. There is hardly a place between the city and Belmont that is not used by teamsters as a fording place. The ferryman's occupation is fast disappearing. But there's a good time a coming sometime.

Work on the new Virginia, says the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette, has so far advanced that it is altogether probable that her machinery will be ready for steam before the Boston and State of Kansas, which lie below her on the ways, can be let off, and the new boat launched. Capt. Ellison said yesterday that work would go right along on the Virginia, and if ready steam would be raised while she was yet on the docks. This will enable her builders to get a line on her machinery and to notice any defects in her pipes that may exist, so that they can be repaired, and enable them to have all the pipes covered with asbestos. The outfit will also be placed in the cabin, just as if she were on the river.

The River Marks.

Warren—River four-tenths of a foot below low water mark. Weather clear and cold.

Steubenville—River 8 inches and stationary. Weather clear and cool.

Greensboro—River 6 feet 7 inches and stationary. Weather fair and cool.

Oil City—River 1 inch and falling. Weather clear and cool.

Morgantown—River 6 feet and stationary. Weather cloudy and cool.

Pittsburgh—River 1 foot and stationary at the dam. Weather clear and cool.

Marie Wainwright.

Miss Marie Wainwright, one of the most attractive and popular actresses who annually visit Wheeling, will be at the Opera House on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 29 and 30. On the first night Miss Wainwright will be seen for the first time as *Clanorin* in Sheridan Knowles' famous comedy, "The Love Chase," which she has only this season added to her repertory. On Wednesday night she will introduce the new society drama of New York life, "His Puritan Wife," written for her by Florence Schofield.

"The Two Old Cronies."

A large audience witnessed the opening of the "Two Old Cronies" at the Grand Opera House last night and enjoyed it. The play has been remodeled since last season and many new features added. The company is fair and the comedy work up to the standard. The "Irish Gavotte," in the second act, is something new and artistic. It will be repeated again this evening and for the rest of the week. Seats at the box office.

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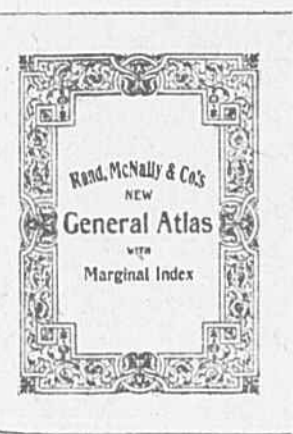
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